

REMARKS

In the Official Action, claims 1 – 8 have been rejected as being unpatentable over HASAN et al. in view of STILL. Applicant respectfully traverses.

Claims 1, 2, 5 and 6 have been amended to replace the wording “management function access request,” “access-inhibit message,” “access-permit message,” and “access inhibiting procedure” with “management function modification request,” “modification-inhibit message” “modification-permit message,” and “modification inhibiting procedure respectively. Support for the amendments is found in the specification, *inter alia* at, page 5, line 21 to page 6, line 11, page 6, lines 18-21, and page 8, lines 3-4 and 9-10.

New claims 9-12 are being submitted without adding prohibited new matter. Support for the new claims is disclosed, *inter alia*, at page 5, line 21 to page 6, line 11 of the specification.

It can be seen from the specification, the current-access-status property stored in the table data module is modified according to the management function modification request received by the system. In one embodiment, when a system administrator plans to modify configuration data of a management function, the current-access-status property stored in the table data module is changed from “FALSE” to “TRUE.” Therefore, the configuration data of the same management function of the network-linked computer platform is modified by only one system administrator, so as to prevent conflict of configuration data in the network-linked computer platform that would otherwise cause abnormal operation or even a system crash.

The Examiner asserts that Hasan et al. (USPN 7,082,464) disclose, in column 16, lines 38-54, technical features that “in the event of any one of the

system administration workstations issues a management function access request, inquiring the table data module whether the management function being requested for modification is currently being accessed." However, Hasan et al., disclose in column 16, lines 38-54 that "[T]he administration model allows multiple administrators of any type to concurrently manage the system with each type of administrator limited to their scope. The access may be further limited by any concurrency controls that may be in effect in order to prevent conflicts that corrupt the management database. Access controls may be assigned to particular administrators. There are many access control schemes however there are some basic concepts that apply to establishing any access control scheme for administrators in the virtualized network management system. The access control scheme will specify whether the administrator has no access, read access only, or read and write access to any specific part of the management database within the scope of a particular administrator. Write access means that the administrator can make changes to the specified part of the database." From the above, it is clear that Hasan et al. only disclose that access control schemes comprise "no access," "read access only" and "read and write access."

Further, Hasan et al. disclose in column 16, lines 55-64 that "[I]f a specific part of the management database is available in scope to a data center or subscriber administrator, the access controls granted to either the data center or subscriber administrator should be determined by agreement made between subscriber and data center when the subscriber had contracted with the data center. For example if the subscriber had granted the data center exclusive right to configure or modify the infrastructure services contracted for, then only the data center administrators will have write access to these services." From the above, it is clear that Hasan et al. only disclose if the subscriber had granted the data center exclusive rights, only the data center administrators will have write access. Therefore, Hasan et al. do not teach or suggest that when a

management function modification request is received, the table data module is queried to identify whether the current-access-status property of the management function is FALSE and the configuration data of the requested management function is allowed to be modified.

The Examiner also cites Still (USPN 5,991,879) to reject the claims. However, Still discloses a method allowing the gradual deployment of a new security policy on a data processing system, to solve the problem that under the prior security system the access to the system objects and processes are seriously affected by valid users, which is different from that of the claims. Further, the function and setting of the "Flag" disclosed in Still's specification are different from those of "Status" of the present invention. The set and reset of the "Flag" is merely a record to identify the users who are allowed or not allowed to access system objects.

Therefore, for at least these reasons amended claims 1 and 5 are believed to be allowable over the proposed Hasan et al. and Still combination.

Dependent claims 2 - 4 and 6 - 9 are also believed to recite further patentable subject matter of the invention and therefore are also believed allowable over the prior art. As such, allowance of the dependent claims is deemed proper for at least the same reasons noted for the independent claims, in addition to reasons related to their own recitations. For example, with respect to claims 2 and 6, Still discloses in column 7, lines 46-66 that the security administrator changes the assist status over a period of time during which a requesting user will be considered by the tertiary state process for ongoing access to objects/processes. However, the objective of the claimed timing procedure is to reset the current-access-status property to FALSE after the preset timeout length, allowing each system administrator to modify the configuration data of a management function only for a limited period of time.

Therefore, Still does not teach or suggest the limitations of claims 2 and 6. As to claims 3 and 7, Still does not disclose hard disk settings related techniques. Accordingly, applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the outstanding rejections and an indication of the allowability of all of the claims in the present application.

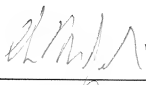
The above amendments have been presented merely for the purpose of clarification, and not to overcome the applied prior art. Accordingly, no estoppel is deemed to result from any of the present amendments.

The Director is authorized to charge any additional fee(s) or any underpayment of fee(s), or to credit any overpayments to Deposit Account **50-0337**. Please ensure that Attorney Docket No. **7196-125/10310641** is referred to when charging any payments or credits for this case.

Respectfully submitted,

Dated: August 15, 2007

By



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